

THE POSTAL STATIONERY SOCIETY

Journal Vol. 20, No. 2 (Serial number 62)

May 2012



Illustrated and Advertising Postal Stationery - QV Wrappers Part 1
See page 14

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The Postal Stationery Society (Founded 1992)

For collectors of postal stationery worldwide no matter what their area of interest.

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Articles on any aspect of postal stationery are welcomed. Items for illustration should be good quality colour scans or photocopies or should be sent to the Editor for scanning.

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Society Calendar 2012

Details of the Programme for 2012 can be found in the Programme Card enclosed with the November issue of the Journal. If you do not have a programme card please contact the Editor.

Summary of meetings:

Saturday 9th June 2012 Saturday 27th October 2012 At SWINPEX Swindon SN3 2LR 10.00-4.30pm. Members Displays 2.00-4.00pm. At The Royal Philatelic Society 41, Devonshire Place, London W1G 6JY 10.30-4.30pm. AGM, Tony Chilton Competition and Auction.

The Royal Philatelic Society London part of initiative with leading philatelic libraries

The Royal Philatelic Society London is pleased to announce the formation of a partnership with pre-eminent philatelic libraries around the world to provide a centralised gateway to the greatest philatelic research in existence. Founding partners in the initiative include the Smithsonian's National Postal Museum and Smithsonian Libraries, Washington, DC, USA, and the American Philatelic Research Library, Bellefonte, PA, USA, with The Royal Philatelic Society London, United Kingdom.

The goal of the project is to establish a single destination - a centralised gateway - by which philatelists around the world can search, locate and access philatelic research from partner libraries in real-time, from any computer. Searchable listings of books and publications, as well as resource locations and access, will soon be one click away, providing an invaluable resource to those doing philatelic research. Major pre-1923 publications, including *The Stamp-Collector's Magazine, Illustrated*, London, from 1865-1874, have been digitised and will be made available at no charge. Other resources considered proprietary by partnering libraries may also be accessed through membership programmes and other avenues via the centralised gateway, which is planned to launch in June.

'This is a fantastic programme that will benefit philatelists around the world', said Allen Kane, director of the Smithsonian Museum. 'I would like to thank Alan Holyoake [of The Royal Philatelic Society London] for proposing the concept and helping to make it become a reality.'

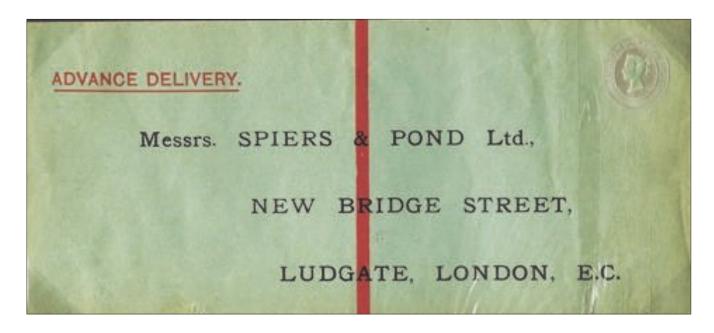
Other partners participating in the project include: Rocky Mountain Philatelic Library, Denver, USA; Slusser Memorial Library, Postal History Foundation Library, Tucson, USA; The Collectors Club, New York, USA; Harry Sutherland Philatelic Library, Vincent Graves Greene Philatelic Research Foundation, Toronto, Canada; Western Philatelic Library, Sunnyvale, USA.

Brian Trotter, President of The Royal Philatelic Society London, commented: 'This Society is delighted to be one of the founding partners in this exciting initiative, creating a centralised information gateway that will prove an invaluable tool for all philatelists around the globe. This ambitious project has only become reality thanks to the inspiration and dedication of those who have turned the concept into reality.'

The Royal Philatelic Society London is the world's oldest philatelic society, having been founded in 1869 as The Philatelic Society, London. Its library provides an unparalleled collection of philatelic literature to be found anywhere in the world. The full range of services available from the Society can be seen by visiting www.rpsl.org.uk.

RPSL Press Release 2 April 2012

CHAIRMAN'S CHAT - MAY 2012



Since my last chat, the society has held its annual Spring Meeting at the Royal Philatelic Society building in London. (Please note, we have two meetings in October, a joint meeting with the GBPS on 13 October and our AGM on 27 October). The meeting was very well attended and you will find a full report elsewhere in the Journal. Our two London Meetings does allow Members to meet and have a lunch together. I hope to see more Members at forthcoming meetings.

For this month's offering of an unusual postal stationery item, I have chosen a Stamped-to-Order Penny Pink envelope which has been pre-printed for a somewhat obscure element of the Post Office's Express Service.

The Post Office introduced an express service in March 1891 and various changes were made to it over its first ten years. In summary, by 1906 the following four services were available:-

 $\label{eq:service} \textbf{Service} \; \textbf{I} \quad \text{- By Express messenger throughout. (Local delivery)}.$

Service II - Express delivery after transmission by ordinary post.

Service III - Advance delivery of mail correspondence at the request of the addressee.

Service IV - Telephone.

The Penny Pink envelope illustrated, has been specifically pre-printed for **Service III** listed above with the words "**ADVANCE DELIVERY**" and with a red central line indicating Express Duty. Apart from the used copy I have of this envelope, I know of no other copies for what must have been a little used express service.

Incidentally, I have Post Office pre-printed envelopes for **Service IV** but Telegram Envelopes were more normally used, However these envelopes fall outside the scope of the Postal Stationery Society.

Michael Lockton

SECRETARY'S NOTES - MAY 2012

There's not that much to tell you about the last three months, except for the March meeting held in London and the ABPS award to our Editor, both of which are covered elsewhere in the Journal.

As you will know we are not having a meeting at **Worpex** this year, but the stamp and postcard fair will still be taking place on Saturday 12th May. There will be plenty of dealers there, with many selling postal stationery. If you would like the Society to consider restarting our meetings at this venue, please get in touch with me and if there is a big enough response we will see if we can book a room again next year.

I would urge as many of you as possible to come to **Swinpex** if you are able to, on Saturday 9th June. It's quite easy to find and additionally it's an extremely good fair run by the Swindon Philatelic Society. There are over forty dealers to take money off you in the morning and our meeting in the afternoon is always friendly, with old and new faces to meet and nice material to view. See our flyer sent out with the February Journal, or get in touch with me for more details.

I hope that you will all be enjoying the coming months, and whether it is your summer or winter you will be expanding your collections and generally having a good philatelic time. I look forward to seeing as many of you as possible this year.

SPRING MEETING REPORT

The Society's spring meeting was held on Saturday 24th March at the Royal Philatelic Society's building in Devonshire Place, London W1. Members of the West African Study Circle were invited to join us for this meeting, which resulted in thirteen members and one guest being present. Peter Robinson, one of our long standing members was particularly welcomed, having travelled down from Yorkshire to his first Society meeting.

Our Chairman, **Michael Lockton**, said he was very pleased to report to members that our Journal Editor, **John Barker** had just been given an Award of Merit by the Association of British Philatelic Societies for his work with this Society, including editing the Journal for the last 10 years. Unfortunately John could not be with us at the meeting, but we hope we will be able to present him with the award at a future date.

DISPLAY OF SIERRA LEONE

Keith Hanman, one of our past chairmen, gave an outstanding display of the postal stationery of Sierra Leone. He started with a brief history of this land in West Africa and then went on to show the first items of postal stationery that were issued in that country, the postcards of 1880, followed by all the other types and values of stationery up to and including our present Queen's reign.

The display was supported by specimen overprints on items issued to both postmasters and the UPU, die proofs of the



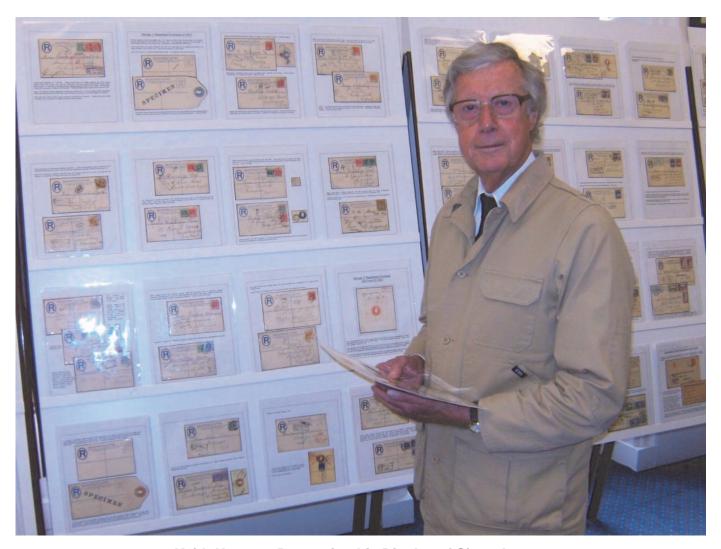


various dies used to print the stationery and a whole range of used items. Many of the items included in the display were unique. Keith finished the display with a selection of air letters up to 1960.





In his vote of thanks, **Alan Huggins** said that some of the items in Keith's display could not be seen elsewhere, in any collection. The display had been considerably improved over the last ten years since we had seen it before. He added that Keith had shown us some super items, including lovely die proofs, and Keith's treatment of the material and his layout had been excellent.



Keith Hanman Presenting his Display of Sierra Leone

ABPS AWARD OF MERIT

The Association of British Philatelic Societies has given our Journal Editor, **John Barker**, an Award of Merit. The citation states that "Whenever there is a task to be undertaken John is one of the handful of philatelists who are always willing to take on a new job or simply to help out" and he "is one of the main 'columns' that silently support the hobby of stamp collecting in all its forms. Without him philately would be much poorer and we would struggle to keep everything ticking over. Despite working hard to support and promote our hobby, John never seeks the limelight, preferring to stand in the shadows, away from praise and adulation."

John joined the Society at its formation in 1992, immediately became a committee member, and quickly took on the role of Newsletter Editor. In 2001 he took over the role of Journal Editor, a post he has held ever since. It is through his hard work that the Journal is now produced to such a high standard today.

John is also an active member of his local society and the Midland Federation, where he works equally hard to ensure other philatelists can enjoy the hobby of collecting stamps, postal history and of course postal stationery.

The citation ends with the statement that "John has

supported philately in Great Britain for many years, and has worked hard to make the Postal Stationery Society one of the foremost organisations in Britain, as well as helping to run his local society and Midland Federation. He does this without any thought of self reward and shies away from publicity. There can be no better candidate for the ABPS Award of Merit than John Barker."

Although John could not be at the meeting on 24th March, he sent the following note. "I was very surprised to receive a letter from Susan Oliver informing me that I am to receive an Award of Merit from the ABPS. I was ... delighted to have been nominated by the PSS. I am very grateful to all involved. I first started attending Philatelic Society meetings over 60 years ago and have been grateful to all those philatelists who have given displays, written articles etc stimulating my interest and adding to my enjoyment of the hobby. I am pleased to give something back to the hobby by my involvement with the PSS, giving displays to societies and my work with my local society and stamp fairs."

I know that all the members of the Postal Stationery Society congratulate John on being given this award and express their thanks for all the hard work he has done for this society and philately in general.

THE ONE SHEET COMPETITION

There were 16 entries for the One Sheet Competition which was judged by all the members present on the basis of 3 points for their first choice, 2 points for their second and 1 point for their third. After all the votes were in and counted, the winners were declared:

First Michael Lockton - The Egyptian Campaign 1882 Second Maurice Buxton - King George VI STO registration

envelope for the London Stock Exchange

Third **Neil Sargent** - King Edward VII 1d Wrappers.

The Winning Entry - Michael Lockton's 'The Egyptian Campaign 1882'

The Egyptian Campaign 1882



Penny Pink envelope (EP 29a - Die 21) posted on 29th.September 1882, uprated to the 2 ½ d. Officer's letter rate to England from Surgeon - Major Thomas Samuel Lloyd Barrow, MD, who had been present at the battle of Tel el-Kebir.

The envelope is addressed to his wife at "The Barracks, Newport Mon., England" with a manuscript endorsement "To be forwarded". Redirected, at no extra charge, to "1 High St., Brecon".



Backstamped -



Only recorded copy of a Penny Pink from this campaign.

Biographical details – Surgeon Lieutenant-Colonel T S Lloyd Barrow. (1842-1919).

MD from St. Andrews, 1862

Egyptian Medal with clasps, and Khedive's bronze star.

References – Robson Lowe, The Encyclopaedia of British Empire Postage Stamps, Vol 2, Page 256.
John Firebrace, Nineteenth Century Wars in Egypt and the Sudan, Page 64.

MEMBERS' DISPLAYS

Following lunch at our usual venue, the nearby Kings Head Pub, it was the turn of members to show off some of their material.

George King kicked off with four frames of packet bands for British postcards and envelopes, explaining how the same band could be used for different issues if the selling price remained unchanged. But in some cases the selling price, and even the postage rate, varied causing some bands to be overprinted with new rates. He also told us how the designs on these items changed when the contract passed from De La Rue to McCorquodale.

Peter Rolfe followed with some more Sierra Leone air letters to complement Keith Hanman's morning display. Peter showed the various changes to the shape of these air letters and the variety of stamps values.

Peter O'Keeffe showed us some items of postal stationery that had been misused and some that had been uprated to pay for additional services.

Peter Robinson came along with some of the issues of Estonia 1991-93, including provisional issues. He explained that there were huge numbers of envelopes and postcards issued in this country and he was only able to show just a few to us today.

Neil Sargent put up some Oil Rivers and Niger Coast stationery, including the GB overprinted issues.

Alan Huggins gave us a taste of his display to be given to the Royal Philatelic Society on 29th March, on the subject of "stamps with large margins". He included some stunning advertising material covering the period from the Mulready stationery up to the reign of King George VI.

Colin Baker gave us an insight into British registration envelopes, from their introduction in 1878 up to the change from paper to plastic, with details of the changes made to the stamps, the text and the layouts of these items.

Maurice Buxton continued on this theme with a frame of STO registration envelopes, followed by stationery uprated for uses and destinations it was not originally intended for.

Michael Lockton concluded the afternoon with a display of jaw dropping Penny Pink envelopes to overseas destinations, starting with an envelope posted to Germany in 1843 and continuing in much the same vein for the rest of his display.

Our Chairman thanked everyone for coming along to the meeting, particularly **Keith Hanman** for displaying his Sierra Leone collection and to other members who had allowed us to see a part of their collection after lunch.

RADFORD HENRY (HARRY) DAGNALL BD,MA, AKC, FRPSL 23 October 1914 - 9 March 2012

I first met Harry in the late 1960s and we shared an interest in British postal stationery and newspaper stamps. Harry's contributions to philately continued over very many years, indeed although hindered by failing eyesight, he was still active at the age of 97. In particular he has left an ongoing legacy in the sphere of philatelic literature. Harry went to Amersham Grammar School from 1925-28 and Kings School, Canterbury from 1928-31. After a period working at Ilfords Harry entered Kings College London, with a view to ordination in the Church of England and was ordained Deacon by the Bishop of Wakefield in 1939. Later in life Harry became a technical editor and the meticulous attention to detail this required naturally featured strongly both in his approach to collecting, and to philatelic study and research and authorship.

A regular attendee at GBPS and RPSL meetings and contributor to the GB Journal (over 100 articles up to 2011), he served as Executive Editor of the GBJ from 1971 to 1980, returning as Assistant Editor from 1987-89. His publications include the following:- John Dickinson and his Silk - Thread Paper (1975); The Newspaper & Almanac Stamps of Great Britain & Ireland, with John Chandler (1981); The Evolution of British Stamped Postcards & Letter Cards (1985); Notes on Victorian Embossed Postal Stationery (1987); Parcel Postage Paid by Impressed Stamps (1987); The mechanical Sorting of mail (1987); Post Horse Tickets, with John Chandler (1988); The Taxes on Knowledge (1992); Postal Stationery Wrappers (1993); Ex Luce Lucellum (1993); Creating a Good Impression, Three hundred years of the Stamp Office and Stamp Duties (1994); and The Taxation of Paper in Great Britain (1994). Truly an impressive record of philatelic scholarship which Harry was always willing to share, and which will, as he would have wished, continue to inform future generations of philatelists.

Harry was elected to Fellowship of the Royal Philatelic Society London in 1989, was made a life member of the GBPS and the Revenue Society and invited to sign the Maurice Williams Roll of Notable Cinderella Philatelists in 2002. An unassuming man, who never sought centre stage, Harry will be remembered with respect and affection by all those who were privileged to know him personally, and British philately has lost a true enthusiast who has made a significant contribution to his chosen subject areas.

Harry died peacefully in the Central Middlesex Hospital on the morning of Friday 9 March 2012 and is survived by his younger brother Brian, his son Cannon Bernard Dagnall, Bernard's wife Jenny, his granddaughter Helen and his great-granddaughter Ella to whom we extend our sincere condolences.

Alan Huggins

UNUSUAL USES OF CHINA SHANGHAI WRAPPERS: The PUZZLE UNFOLDS Dr John K. Courtis acapjajc@friends.cityu.edu.hk

The Puzzle Commences

A few years ago I acquired an unusual wrapper – a China-Shanghai 2c vermilion wrapper issued in 1893 but bearing a 1900 GB ½d blue green QV adhesive positioned neatly over the Shanghai indicium. The postmark is a 26mm circular date stamp BOURNEMOUTH 9.15PM 21 DE 00. Private printing has been added to the Shanghai wrapper: The STAMP COLLECTORS' FORTNIGHTLY and the address 77-78, High Holborn, London, W.C. bordered with double lines and a gap of 20mm. The question that arises from this wrapper is why would anyone obtain a China - Shanghai wrapper and then use it as a private wrapper in England? This wrapper is shown as Illustration 1.



Illustration 1: Shanghai E4 Wrapper used in England with QV adhesive

The Puzzle Intensifies

A second wrapper caught my attention where a GB adhesive had again been placed over the indicium, this time a China - Shanghai 1893 1c brown. There are no other identifying marks on this wrapper other than the circular date postmark that ties the adhesive and indicium: 28mm LONDON S.W. 13 MAR 23 11.15AM & identifier 66 on 1912 ½d green KGV. This wrapper is addressed to Brussels, Belgium. The question that arises from this second wrapper is whether it is connected in any way with the former that was dated 23 years earlier. This wrapper is shown as Illustration 2.



Illustration 2: Shanghai E3 Wrapper used in England with KGV adhesive

Another similar wrapper, which I did not buy, was sold on eBay in December 2009 and this is shown in Illustration 3. The postmark on this wrapper appears to be solely on the adhesive and there is no trace on the bottom right quadrant of the indicium. I was concerned that the adhesive might had been added at a later stage. On the other hand, an examination of the handwriting on these two wrappers is similar and it would not be unreasonable to form the opinion that these two wrappers emanated from the same source, and for the purpose of the exposition that follows I make



Illustration 3: Shanghai E3 Wrapper used in England with KGV adhesive

The Puzzle Unravels

A third wrapper purchased on eBay a few weeks ago is also a China - Shanghai E3 wrapper but with the adhesive removed. In fact the seller had listed this wrapper as a Shanghai wrapper and not mentioned its usage in England notwithstanding the 4-line black handstamp identifying the sender as Albert H. Harris of Windsor House, Victoria Street, Westminster, London, S.W.1. The adhesive had been placed to the left of the indicium. Portions of the circular date stamp can be seen at the top, left and base but not at the right. There is no postmark shown on the indicium indicating that a second adhesive was not added.

The flap of the wrapper shows a 62x29mm boxed 5-line WHO'S WHO IN// PHILATELY, 1926// 172 PAGES 2500 ENTRIES 3/9 POST FREE// NOW ON SALE. The book was edited by Albert H. Harris and as it was dated 1926. The wrapper was mailed to Sydney, New South Wales, Australia. Although difficult to see there is an arrival postmark on the flap 25/15mm which under magnification shows NEW SOUTH WALES, SYDNEY 1.15 AUSTRALIA but the date is unreadable. The addressee J. H. Smyth Ltd. is a firm of philatelic dealers located in Sydney. This wrapper is shown as Illustration 4.

The question raised by this fourth wrapper is whether it is connected to the wrappers illustrated above? The author's database of used wrappers collected from the Internet over the past eight years is approximately 23,000 images. China - Shanghai wrappers are not listed on the market all that frequently. There are 17 examples of E3 and 12 of E4 in the database which is a listing rate of about one per three months. These are the only four instances of which I am aware where China - Shanghai wrappers have been used in conjunction with GB adhesives.

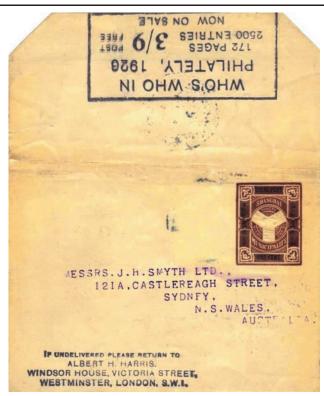


Illustration 4: Shanghai E3 Wrapper used in England with KGV missing adhesive

The Puzzle Explained

What is common to the owner of a small billiard table, to vases of colourful flowers decorating a business basement in the Strand during war time, roaming around the Collectors' open air Bourse in Paris and "Farthing Grey"? The key to explaining this puzzle lies in an awareness of the nature of Albert H. Harris who is identified on the fourth wrapper.

Albert H. Harris was a stamp dealer, publisher, founding member of the Philatelic Traders Society and editor of several stamp magazines and books. During his schooldays in Paris around 1900 he was first drawn to stamp collecting. Born in Croydon on 13 September 1885 he went to Paris to complete his education and there became a regular visitor to the open air bourse on Sundays. When he returned to England he established the Enterprise Stamp Club in 1902 and from this organization evolved the City of London Philatelic Society. Later he founded the Modern Collectors' Club and also became an early member of the Junior Philatelic Society.

Later he became a dealer in philatelic literature and in March 1911 he launched the Philatelic Circular which in July 1919 became The Philatelic Magazine. In 1921 he bought Alfred Smith's Monthly Circular which he incorporated into the Philatelic Magazine. He changed his premises to Windsor House (as shown on wrapper four) where he had a share in an advertising agency, and eventually moved to the Strand where he remained for 21 years. His company, Harris Publications built a reputation as a firm of literature, album and accessory suppliers.

Albert Harris compiled the first Standard Index to Philatelic Literature and was editor of the Stamp Collectors Annual, Who's Who in Philately (mentioned on the flap of wrapper four), the Harris Catalogue of Metermarks, and a range of handbooks. In the 1920s he bought the Philatelic Trade, changed it from a monthly to a fortnightly and trebled its circulation. In 1928 he founded the Philatelic Traders Society and launched the London International Stamp Dealers' Bourse under the banner of the Philatelic Magazine.

Accompanying his obituary written by L. N. and M. Williams in the Philatelic Magazine in 1945 there are snippets of

the man written by others. It is in these snippets that some clues can be found regarding the China - Shanghai wrapper puzzle. He was known to travel away from England and take photographs, which he did in Czechoslovakia. While there is no specific mention of visiting Shanghai he obviously possessed a predisposition for such travel. It is also remarked that "he liked to take occasional excursions into undiscovered philatelic fields". Moreover, his initial business interest was a career in advertising which he eventually turned to the stamp trade. These comments are consistent with Harris Publications using China - Shanghai wrappers in a novel way to appeal to philatelic collectors and dealers. (This brief bio is an amalgam of Williams and Stringer noted in the references).

The Puzzle Continues

When this information is assembled there is indirect evidence that Alfred Harris obtained a supply of inexpensive China - Shanghai wrappers which he brought back to London for use in his business as an attention-seeking gimmick to promote his philatelic publications. By adding a GB adhesive of the correct rate and obliterating entirely or in part the Shanghai indicium the wrapper was transformed into a private and valid wrapper for business purposes.

There are, however, remaining puzzles to be solved. The first wrapper is postmarked 1900 when Alfred H. Harris was only 15 years old. At that age he had no connection with The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly and could not therefore have been involved. The China - Shanghai wrapper was issued in 1893 and used in the Shanghai postal system until 1898 when it merged with China's Imperial Postal Service.

The question now is whether these wrappers are remainders that were sold by the Shanghai Post Office to British philatelic connections? If so they may have been used spasmodically for more than a quarter of a century, initially by the proprietors of The Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly with remaining stocks used by the firm of Harris Publications Ltd. Dating on two of the wrappers are March 1923 and circa 1927 which places Alfred Harris at the ages 37-41 well within his philatelic career as an editor and publisher. There is no mention of any explicit connection between Alfred Harris and the Stamp Collectors' Fortnightly although this does not rule out the possibility that it had a name change and was incorporated into some other journal that became part of the Harris stable.

Further evidence is needed about the circumstances surrounding the acquisition of the unused China – Shanghai wrappers by British philatelic interests. Further evidence is needed too about the linkage between the usages of these wrappers in 1900 for The Stamp Collector Fortnightly and the subsequent usages by Harris Publications some 23-27 years later.

References

Morgan Tom and Vallancey F. Hugh (1945), What They Thought of Him, The Philatelic Magazine, December 14, pp. 547-8.

Stringer K. E. (1972), "A Pamphlet that Launched A Publisher" – Albert H. Harris 1900-1945, Philatelic Literature Review, June 30, pp. 91

Williams L. N. and M. (1945), Philately's Great Loss: Albert H. Harris Passes On, The Philatelic Magazine, December 14, pp. 547-8.

[Editor's Note: Magnification and careful enhancement of the image in illustration 3 shows that the GB ½d green KGV adhesive had originally been positioned partially over the Shanghai indicium as there are remnants of the continuation of a circular postmark towards the upper part of the indicium. These include the letters 'ON' being the continuation of 'LOND..' which appears on the KGV adhesive. These are seen by the 'OC' of 'LOCAL POST' continuing above the indicium and towards the top right hand corner of the wrapper. At some later date the cancelled adhesive has been removed and replaced lower down to reveal the Shanghai imprint which had been partially covered.]

THE KING IS DEAD (or is he?)

Tony Goldstone

This short article was written on 6th February, on the 60th Anniversary of the death of King George VI. Even now as I write, vivid schoolboy memories flood back of that sombre school assembly and moving words of our headmaster (an ex-WW II Squadron Leader).

I have been thinking for some time of expanding my Aerogramme collection (currently concentrating on two areas: The Holy Land 1941 to date and GB Forces). I finally decided to collect mint aerogrammes issued during the reign of Geo. VI in all countries of the British Empire and Commonwealth (including Protectorates, Mandates etc.). I restricted this new collection to aerogrammes that were acceptable for passage through the mail without the addition of an adhesive stamp (thus including OHMS but excluding for example the early New Zealand issues). Also, if an aerogramme was issued post 6th February 1952 it would not be acceptable for my collection unless the printed stamp still bore an illustration of His Majesty.

It is the nightmare of every

be cancelled due to the cancellation of the event through one cause or another. In the event of the death of a reigning monarch, general issue stamps which are well advanced in the pipeline are usually issued in spite of the monarch's demise. I reckoned that by late 1952 or mid 1953 all planned issues of King George would have been on sale to the public and the early QE II ones would immediately follow.

How surprised I was to discover that Jamaica, having redesigned their aerogramme layout three times since Feb.1952 still issued one in 1955 with the George V1 stamp! Then I discovered that Singapore also continued to issue George V1 aerogrammes with changes in aerogramme layout right up to and including 1955, as did Sierra Leone and Cyprus - where these territories so remote from Great Britain that news took so long to reach them?(!) There might be others still to add to this list as I press on and pursue my new and challenging interest.

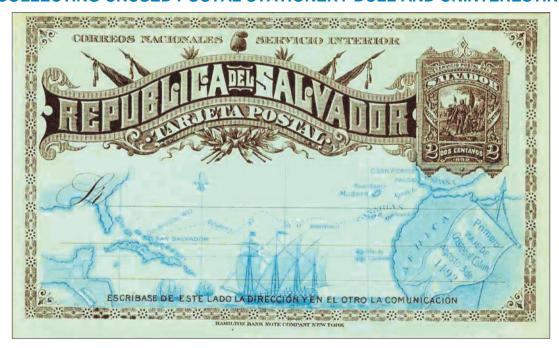


However the genuine valid for postage King George aerogramme issued by Australia in 1994 (!) must surely hold the record – or perhaps not, as it was a 50th anniversary replica of the first Australian aerogramme issued in 1944.

Aerogrammes are now almost a thing of the past, occasionally available in selected post offices still holding old stock. Britain issued its first (a POW issue) in 1941 and finally ceased producing them in 2010 a shade short of 70 years



IS COLLECTING UNUSED POSTAL STATIONERY DULL AND UNINTERESTING?



1892 Republic of Salvador unused 2c postal card.

A work of art - best appreciated in mint condition?, or, a piece of card of little significance until it has 'done its job' and received cancellations and other postal markings?

Please send comments on this or any other aspects of postal stationery to the Editor.

Contact details on page 2 of this Journal.

GB POSTAL STATIONERY NEWS

Alan Huggins

Envelopes - Post Office Issues

David Hooper has kindly made available some material relating to trials made in 1967-68 for stamping envelopes made from the web on a reel fed machine instead of the previous practice of stamping pre-cut envelope blanks. A special die was made by the Royal Mint for use in these trials (see illustration below).



According to the notes accompanying this material, the first trial run of stamping reel fed envelopes was carried out in March 1968 by McCorquodale & Co. using a machine manufactured by Beasley French & Co.



The trial envelope shown has the 4d Tudor rose embossed die in blue, the colour being changed to sepia for the first issued envelopes (**EP89-93**) produced by the new system.

Envelopes - Stamped to Order Issues

Queen Victoria - amend the numbering of compound envelopes ESC12 & 13 as follows:-

ESC12 $6d + 1\frac{1}{2}d (5 + 8);$ ESC13 $ls + 1\frac{1}{2}d (6 + 8)$

King George V - 1d ES43 and 1½d ES53 reported with House of Lords embossed seal on open flap. Also the same two envelopes by with House of Commons seal with black mourning borders (courtesy George King).

Queen Elizabeth II - envelopes with House of Commons printed on front (page 27) - amend

ES141a,b,d to ES140 a,b,d (courtesy Philip Kaye).

ES159a now reported unused change NR to **** NR to **** (courtesy **Tony Pinder**).

ES168 Northem Ireland Assembly - Has now been reported in sizeWDL (courtesy **George King**)

Envelopes - Official Issues

New item with 'POSTAGE PAID ROYAL MAIL' (courtesy **George King**)

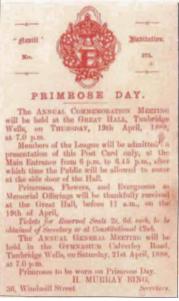
2011 1st class NVI QE11Machin head in blue on white paper inscribed 'On Her Majesty's Service'

EO78 size 110x220mm NR ****



Postcards Stamped to Order Issues

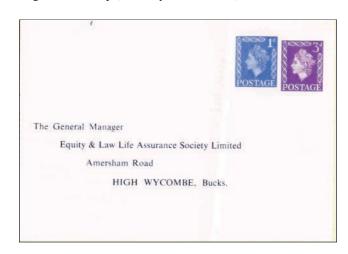




Queen Victoria ½d brown without coat of arms (CS2) with text relating to the 1888 Primrose Day but also functioning as a Members only admission ticket. **CS122B** KGVI 1d + ½d size d now reported in unused change NR to **** (courtesy **George King**)



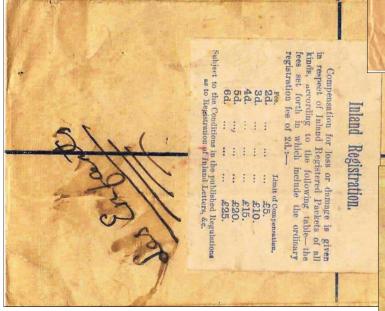
CS197 QEII3d + 1d size g now reported with 1d stamp alongside 3d stamp (courtesy Mike Mood)



REGISTERED

Registration Envelopes -Post Office Issues

Queen Victoria 1883 RP13H2 now reported with 5 dot florets delete '(9 dot florets only)', (courtesy Mike Mood)





UNUSUAL USAGE OF QUEEN VICTORIA 1d PINK ENVELOPE

The illustration shows a 1d pink envelope **EP7** sent from Paris St Paul's Church Yard on 20 February 1853 with the postage paid by a strip of 4 x 40centimes Ceres issue of France.

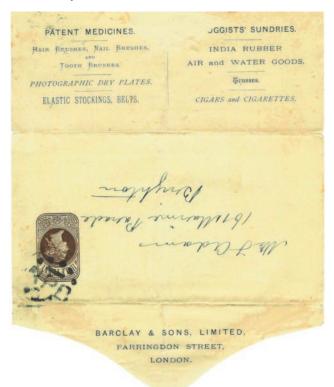


ILLUSTRATED AND ADVERTISING POSTAL STATIONERY in the period up to the First World War - QV Wrappers part 1

The scans and/or photocopies of the GB QV wrappers are illustrated here by kind permission of the following members: Colin Baker, Paul Dunn, John Foulgar, George King, Jan Kosniowski, John Lea and Edy Pockele.

This article is part of an ongoing series of articles for which the editor welcomes further contributions. Scans/photocopies should be in colour with a resolution of 300dpi, or greater, if possible. Many postal stationery items do not fall into our definition of advertising material and are thus excluded from the list, particularly those that have pre-printed delivery addresses, or have been printed with return addresses on the front or back, have acknowledgements for the receipt of correspondence or money (usually on the reverse or inside), or carry simple monographs and logos only.

Most **postal stationery wrappers** are of commercial origin and carry the sender's name, return address and sometimes their logo. These are not included here but may be found listed in "The Stamp Domain Postal Stationery Newspaper Wrapper Catalogue" which is under construction by one of our members **Jan Kosniowski**.



Barclay and Sons Limited, Farringdon Street, London.

STO wrapper made to look like an envelope, but with open sides. Printed on 'reverse' with details of the goods supplied by the company.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



Chorlton & Knowles, Manchester.

STO wrapper advertising printing and stationery.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 11 October 1894 Latest d/u:

Messrs. Cassell, Petter, & Galpin,

La Belle Sauvage Yard,

Ludgate Hill, London, E.C.

REVIEW OF BOOK.

Messrs. CASSELL, PETTER, & GALPIN'S Compliments, and will feel obliged by a Copy of the Paper being forwarded to them containing any Review which the Editor may be pleased to give of the accompanying Work.

Cassell, Petter, & Galpin. Ludgate Hill, London, E.C. STO wrapper with 135mm. gap between top and bottom text. Stamp ½d green type LW2

Earliest d/u: Latest



Crosse & Blackwell

STO wrapper with Royal Coat of Arms.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 4 November 1899

Latest d/u:



STO wrapper with Royal Coat of Arms in arched frame. Border measures either 236 x 108 mm. or 240 x 112 mm.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 4 July 1893 Latest d/u:



Decorators' Gazette Plumber and Gasfitters' Review

Latest d/u:

STO wrapper advertising subscription of 6s6d post free. Stamp $2\frac{1}{2}d$ lake type 10a

Earliest d/u:



The Echo

STO wrapper with 'finger post' type sign "from The Echo / To.."

Stamp ½d green type EW1 dated 1/10/70

Earliest d/u:1 March 1871 Latest d/u:



The Effective Advertiser

STO wrapper with the firm's name and address in an ornate border. Stamp 1d pink type $\bf 5$

Earliest d/u: 9 March 1886 Latest d/u:



Harris, Calne, Wilts.

STO wrapper with Royal Coat of Arms.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 22 June 1901 Latest d/u:



Faudel, Phillips & Sons

STO wrapper with firm's name address and illustration of premises in a framed address panel.

Stamp 1/2d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u:

Latest d/u:



STO wrapper with firm's name address and illustration of premises similar to the above but address panel with horizontal line above and below.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 21 April 1898

Latest d/u:



STO wrapper with firm's name address and illustration of premises with figures in the foreground.

Stamp ½d green type LW4

Earliest d/u: 4 February 1902 L

Latest d/u:



The Daily Graphic

STO wrapper with the name surmounted by cherubs etc.

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



Flageollet & Co., Milton Street, London E.C.

STO wrapper with advert for continental removals and illustration of a company removals cart on the flap.

Stamp 1/2d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u:

Latest d/u:



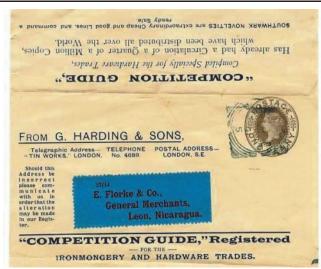
Similar to the above but company name on globe within double ring and sailing vessel and factory scene at either side. Address of 5 Bonded Carmen depots to the left of the imprinted stamp. Earliest d/u:

Latest d/u:



Similar to the above but without the ROUEN depot address. Earliest d/u:

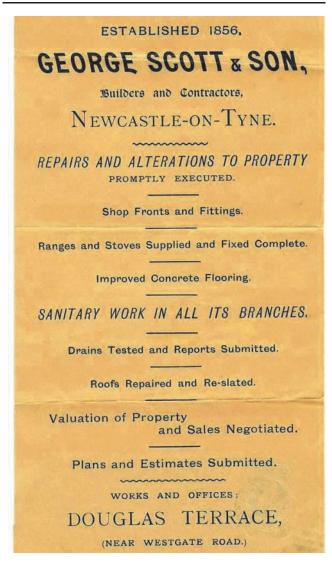
Latest d/u:



G. Harding & Sons.

STO wrapper with advert for 'The Competition Guide'
Stamp 1d brown type LW3

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



George Scott & Son

Latest d/u:

STO wrapper with and advert for property work printed on the inside

Stamp ½d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u:



James Evans & Co., Manchester

Post Office wrapper **WP16** with the firm's address and illustration of metal goods on the flap and covering part of the imprinted stamp, and the 4 lines of instructions

Stamp QV 1/2d brown type LW4. 4 lines of instructions

Earliest d/u: 4 February 1891 Latest d/u: 15 July 1891

INVOICE.



Similar to the above but only 2 lines of text prior to the firm's name. Earliest d/u: 17 March 1892 Latest d/u:



Marians and Priest, London E.C.

STO wrapper with illustration of a Buddha at the left Stamp QV 1/2d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: 29 September 1896 Latest d/u:

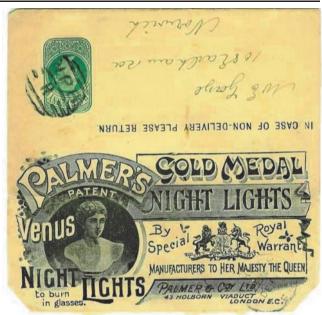


Unknown - possibly McDowall, Stevens & Co. Ltd, 4 Upper Thames Street, London EC

Post Office wrapper WP17 with added vignette of a horse stall, inverted in relation to the stamp. Small reference number MI 431 in circle.

Stamp 1/2d brown type LW4

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:



Palmer & Co Ltd, 43 Holborn Viaduct, London EC STO wrapper with fancy heading and Royal coat of arms.

Stamp ½d blue-green type LW4

Earliest d/u: 14 December ?? Latest d/u:



Priest, Marians & Compy, Limited. London E.C. STO wrapper with company name encircling a Buddha.

Stamp QV 1/2d brown WS5

Earliest d/u: Latest d/u:

GEORGE VI DIES—DATES OF FIRST SALES

Maurice Buxton

Quite by chance (when I was looking for background information on the changes in KGVI registered envelopes at the BPMA), I stumbled across a typed sheet that listed the first sale dates of the postal stationery issued to the public in 1939-40. Since I haven't seen those listed anywhere, I thought they might be of interest to PSS members.

The sheet was in the file POST 52/684 ("Stamped Stationery - Postage envelopes - Registered letter envelopes - George VI issue and variations") and the dates given were as follows:

Postcards	Date of First Sale	
Thin (Single)	29 March 1940	
Thin (Reply)		
Stout (Single)		
Foreign (Single)		
Foreign (reply)	29 March 1940	
Lettercards	25 January 1940	
Envelopes		
A	8 February 1939	
Commercial	8 February 1939	
N	10 March 1939	
Registered Letter Envelopes		
F	29 April 1939	
F Selling Price added	9 December 1939 old price	
F with revised compensation note	April 1940	
G	19 April 1939	
G with revised compensation Note. Selling Price added.	19 February 1940 old price	
G2 (for REPS)	8 December 1939 (First issue)	
G2 address of sender on front and back omitted	March 1940	
Н	4 May 1939	
H with revised compensation Note. Selling Price added.	19 February 1940 old price	
H2	23 June 1939	
H2 with revised compensation Note. Selling Price added.	April 1940 old price	
K	2 May 1939	
K revised compensation note and selling price added	13 June 1940 new price	
Telegram "A1" Forms	25 July 1939	
½d, 1d, and 1½d embossing dies brought into use by I.R. Department, on material sent in by public	1 May 1939	
2d embossing dies, ditto	24 July 1939	
2½d embossing dies, ditto	28 July 1939	

These dates do appear to be actual first days of sale as reported back by postmasters, not the days of issue from the Stores Department (Stamp Section, Somerset House). A letter in the file sent out by that department to a number of Head Postmasters around the UK, dated 19th April 1939, reads:

"Introduction of Registered Envelopes embossed with King George VI Postage Stamps.

As contemplated in the notice which appeared in the Post Office Circular of the 12th April, King George VI Registered envelopes are now being issued from this Department in response to requisitions. A small supply of the "G" size is being sent to you to-day and I shall be glad if you will have these at once placed on sale at your Head Office Counter for a day or two, reverting thereafter to the sale of the George V envelopes until the stock is exhausted.

As in the case of the Postage envelopes, perhaps you will kindly advise me of the date upon which the first sale of George VI Registered envelopes is effected.

D.P.DELL"

Putting a new issue on sale for a short while, and then reverting to the existing issue until it was sold out, appears to have been standard practice at the time - c.f. the instructions for the new KEVIII and KGVI adhesive stamp issues, which were to supply them for the first week or so, and then to use up the current stock.

A BUNDLE OF JOY

Colin Baker

You might think from the title of this issue's piece that my bundle of joy is a baby and perhaps I have become a father once again, or even a grandfather. But no! That's not the case. Yes I am a grandfather, but that happened six years ago. The 'bundle of joy' I am referring to is a small stack of postal stationery postcards that I recently received.

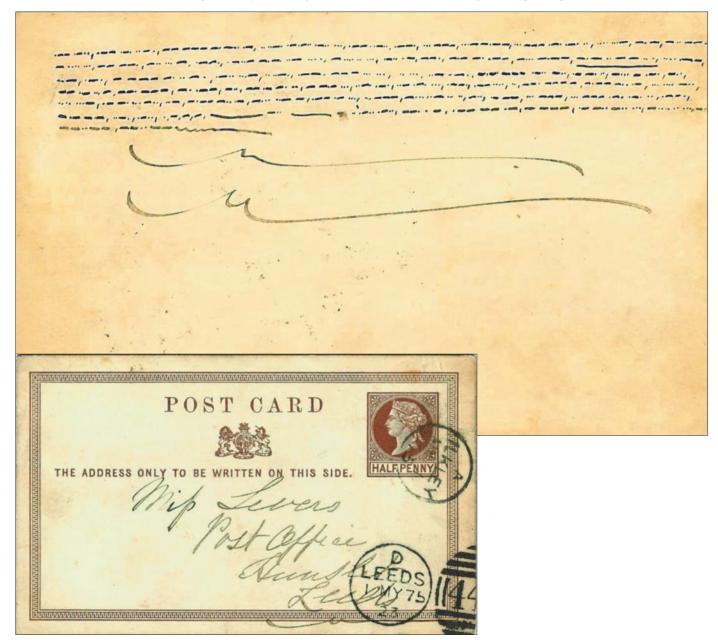
I do not normally bid on bundles of postal stationery in auctions, especially when I am unable to view them. However, on this occasion there was a scan of a couple of items that I was particularly interest in. I decided to go for these two and assumed that the remainder of the lot would be a bonus. If the rest of it was all rubbish I would not have lost anything as I would still have my two main items. My bid was successful and a week or two later a thick package from abroad fell onto my doormat.

I quickly glanced through it, but apart from the two special postcards that I particularly wanted, there seemed to be nothing of significance in the rest of the items. But first glances can be deceiving. Checking over all the postcards a few days later revealed that some of the backs were particularly interesting. Two

were very intriguing. OK, the postcards are not in pristine condition, but that is not always important. These two postcards have been written in code.

In the society's Journal number 47, August 2008, I wrote about another postcard I had come across at a local antiques fair that had been written backwards and needed a mirror in order to read it. Now I had two more postcards that were impossible to read, the messages being written in dots, dashes and slashes. The first postcard was the stout issue of 1875 (H&B CP4) sent to Miss Livers, Post Office, Leeds on 1 May 1875 (illustrated below).

My first thoughts were that the dots and dashes on this postcard was Morse code. But typing these into an internet translation program gave me rubbish. In Morse code the start of the message reads "WL WRF MONDA IF?LS WID". Was this a second layer of code in case somebody was able to read Morse code? Perhaps the dots and dashes had been transposed and I tried putting dots for dashes and vice versa into the internet translator. Alas, no joy. I simply got more dots and dashes rather than letters of the alphabet. I put the postcard to one side.

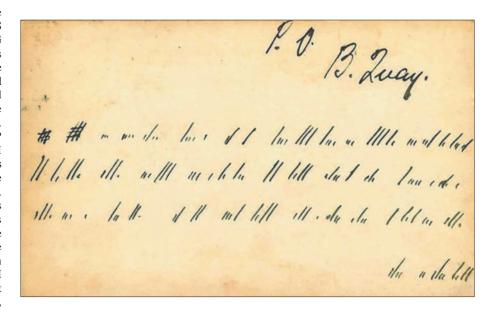


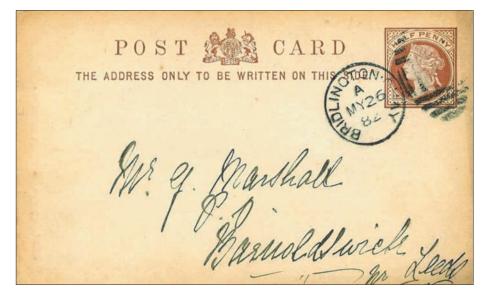
I then turned my attention to the second postcard, the stout issue of 1878 (H&B CP6) used on 26 May 1881 to Mr G Marshall, P. O. Barnoldswick, Near Leeds (illustrated to the right). I assumed that the short and long slashes on the second postcard were the equivalent of dots and dashes in Morse code. They were and the same internet program gave this result. "SHL BE AT BOBS ON SUND AM NGP SO SEND MY LTR THERE PSE DG AM VY WLL TKS W LILY" (Shall be at Bob's on Sunday am. NGP so send my letter there please. DG am very well thanks, W Lily). I think this is the correct message, but as you can see from the illustration the spaces between words are not well defined. The writer has also used shorthand rather like that used today in text messaging, which makes it even harder to understand. Also, I have no idea what ngp or dg stand for. But still, it was fun finding out what was written, especially as the postcard was a bonus.

especially as t

Footnote

A colleague of mine, Peter Chadwick, has recently given me a possible explanation for the two sets of initials used in the message written in Morse code on the back of the second postcard in my article. NPG probably comes from the Latin *nisi prius*, "unless first" and in this instance means "all other things being equal". The initials DG stand for the Latin expression *Dei grazia* meaning "by the grace of God". Although the use of phrases like this was very common in Victorian times, and during the last century, modern language has moved on and the popularity of this aspect of English has waned considerably.





A CAPE OF GOOD HOPE POST CARD

Tony Hitchcock

The card illustrated on the left is something of an enigma. This card is in most respects the same as the first Cape of Good Hope postcard with the exception of the Coat of Arms between POST and CARD. The arms are those of Cape Town and not the Royal Arms. The Quik/Jonkers listing describe it as a proof but I cannot agree! I fell that it is possibly an essay, printer's sample, or even a card for Cape Town Municipality.

I would welcome any comments on this.





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NOTES FROM THE EDITOR'S DESK

'A Mystery Postcard Solved'

Stephen Roche has sent an email to clarify some of the points made in Notes from the Editor's Desk - p21 of the February issue of the Journal. These notes relate to the Colin Baker's 'A Mystery Postcard' which was illustrated on p2 of the November issue of the Journal.

Stephen points out that the boxed marking **is** 'DEPOIS DA PARTIDA' **not** 'DEPOIS DA PARAIBA': this ties in with my Editor's note. Stephen has sold a number of covers with this marking in the past. He also attaches some scans of pages from **Paulo Ayres** handbook of Brazilian postmarks showing D.P. cancels and the other markings on the card; PP, PD, the Pernambuco grid of dots and the registered oval. These are all referred to in Paulo Ayres handbook.

With the nature of these markings established, Stephen's view is that the card was taken to the Pernambuco P.O. to secure copies of the various cancels used and thus is a philatelic curiosity rather than a genuine piece of mail.

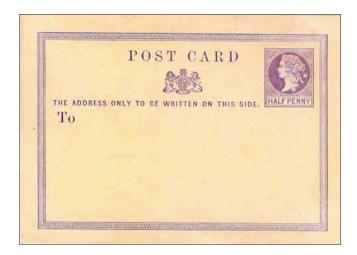
The 1945 - 46 Provisional ... Registration Envelopes Harold Barstow writes

... re **RP 55,** in Alan's notes on p.20 of the February issue of the Journal, he has missed out the most significant difference between McCorquodale and P&A; that P&A has no dot after REGISTERED LETTER on the front, all other KGVI size G have a period following.

QUERY: SLOPER cancellation Experiment 1870 -1876. Tony Hitchcock writes

During the period 1870 - 1876, an experiment was carried out in a number of cities. (Manchester, Birmingham, Edinburgh, Liverpool and London) which entailed the punching of the card through the stamp. In London and Liverpool, an arrow was punched.

In the mid 1960's, the item illustrated below was purchased from Martin Wilcox, the stamp dealer and author of various publications on Postal history. He did not know if this item was a proof of the 'Arrow Punch', or had been made in recent years on a machine said to exist in London. He had not actually seen a machine of this kind. If the latter was the case, this would make the item bogus! Are there any members able to cast any light on this matter?



[Editor's Note: In the Postal Stationery Society Journal Vol. 13 No.4 - November 2005, Rosemary Smith wrote an article on 'Sloper Experimental Cancellations' from which I quote:

"....Tony Edwards reminded me that there is mention in The Perfin Society Bulletin 221 (Feb 1986), of a card (not a postal stationery card) which has an arrow strike and bears the words, "At a meeting of the Postal History Society on 21st November 1950, this card was cancelled by a Sloper's perforating Arrow machine which the G.P.O. Authorities had kindly allowed Mr H.C. Westley to exhibit at the meeting." Does anyone know the history of this card or the whereabouts of this machine?"

Editor: At the time I had no replies to this. Maybe some member can shed some light on this now? If so, please let me know - my contact details are on p2 of this issue of the Journal.]

Articles Noted Recently in the Philatelic Press

"Postal Stationery Matters" Peter van Gelder (Gibbons Stamp Monthly September & December 2011)

"The Mulready Envelope and Letter Sheets" Tom Slemons (Gibbons Stamp Monthly March 2012)

Articles in the Journals of other Postal Stationery Societies from across the World

Postal Stationery January/February 2012 2011 (USA) Bogus Abu Dhabi Aerogrammes Weed Sewing Machine Company and Other Things 2011 USA Postal Card Issues

Postal Stationery March/April 2012 (USA) Sweden's 1897 Jubilee Postal Card "Folded Forensics" on U.S. Postal Cards

Pasteups (multiple envelopes glued together) USA Specimen Envelopes

View Cards in Europe UPU Specimens?

Postal Stationery Collector February 2012 (Australia) Queen Elizabeth the Second Embossed Stationery (The First Values)

Top 100 Countdown: Expensive Post office Used Newspaper Wrappers

Postal Stationery Collector May 2012 (Australia)

Ecuador Postal Stationery

Auxiliary Postal markings on Australian States & Commonwealth Post Office Wrappers

Ganzsachensammler Jubiläumsausgabe Nr. 100 (Switzerland)

Ein erstaunliches Zeitdokument aus dunkler Zeit

Ansichtskarten und Ganzsachen der Schweiz

Die kantonalen Posten und der Postverkehr 1803-1848 im Spiegel der Empfangsscheine dieser Periode

Neues zu Probedrucken und Probeexemparen von Postkarten der Schweiz

L'Entier Postal November 2011 (France)

Les Entires postaux autographes: écrivains français ou ayant vécu en France

Grosvenor Sale.

One of our long standing members is selling his GB postal stationery collection of over 5,000 items in the Grosvenor sale on 28th & 29th May 2012. There are likely to be a significant number of items of interest to members of the PSS.

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